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(1949) Department.

SERIES.

G.O. No. 262

Dated 16-3-49

[Despatch Abstract.]

Subj:- Conference - 8th Regional Food Conference Proceedings and Papers relating to - Recorded.

Board of Revenue (C.D.)
Chepauk, M A D R A S.

CONFERENCE _ Regional Food Conference 16.2.1949 - Brief resume of the proceedings.

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ITEM 1. Desirability of having a uniform procurement policy in the Southern Region.

The policy followed by the Madras Government was emplained to the Conference in detail. In the end, the Conference agreed that the cultivators should not be allowed more than 1 lb- for their consumption e.g. in Mysore they were allowing 19½ oz. per adult as against 1 lb., and that the procurable surplus should be estimated in each case irrespective of the holdings so far as wet lands of the cultivator and procured. It was also agreed that the proposal of Mr. Bannerjee mentioned in the Regional Food Commissioner's note was without merit.

6. Monthly allotment of foodgrains for February and March 1949 and their points of delivery.

It was announced that for March Madras will get the following quantities of imported foodgrains:

Rice	...	15,000 tons.
Wheat.	...	10,000 tons.
Maize.	...	6,500 tons.

The ports of call of the ships will be decided on reference to requirements.

The Madras stressed the necessity for at least one ship of Milo in March. It was however informed that the arrivals of milo in March were earmarked for Baroda, Sourashtra, and other places and that it was not possible to give any milo for Madras during March. However, the Regional Food Commissionef agreed to allot some milo to Madras from shipments expected towards the end of March.

It was also suggested by the Regional Food Commissioner that Travancore and Cochin may take as loan some small quantities of wheat required by the States.

9. Revised procedure for clearing of foodgrains at Madras and Cochin ports from 1.2.1949 introduced by the Government of India.

The Regional Food Commissioner agreed to the presence of a representative of the Madras Government at the time of weighment of empty waggons as well as after loading the waggons. As regards the question of issue of clear receipts by the Railways, it was pointed out by Madras that it was unfair for one Department of the Government of India to refuse to accept consignments when such consignments were given by another Department of the same Government of India. In the end, the Regional Food Commissioner agreed to instruct their men to see that the grains were better bagged and stitched.

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At the same time, it was decided that the Regional Food Commissioner will take up with the Government of India Railway Department regarding the attitude of the Railways.

10. Allotment of movement of surplus rice in Coorg during 1948-49.

It was reported by Coorg that arrangements have already been made for the despatch of rice to recipients. Coorg also represented that it required 5,000 tons groundnut cake, 500 tons bone meal and 100 tons Ammonuim sulphate from Madras or Mysore and stated that if these manures were supplied it would increase porcurement. The Regional Food Commissioner suggested that Coorg Government may represent the case to him when he would take up the matter with Madras and Mysore.

11. Allotment of rice from Coorg.

It was announced that the question was settled. The question of increasing the surplus (to be alloted) for Coorg will be decided after getting latest information by end of February.

12. Introduction of rationing in Coorg.

It was reported that the date of introduction of rationing in Coorg was postponed to 1.4.1949.

16. Allotment of broken rice.

It was annoucned that a portion of the Siam rice is received in the form of broken rice and that its allotment to recipients cannot be stopped. It was also reported that the Government of India will allow a rebate in respect of price.

18. Reimposition of control over Gram Ban on both imports and exports.

The orders issued by Madras in this regard was explained fully. It was stated that the Madras Government do not contemplate banning imports of gram into this province as it was unnecessary since, if control were exercised strictly in the exporting areas, there cannot be any imports. Regional Food Commissioners query how gram imported on Government account could be distinguished from gram imported by privat merchants and their respective prices controlled, was answered by stating that the gram imported on Government account would be given only to selected Co-operative Socieities and merchants who would undertake to sell only this gram. It was also stated that misuse by the consumers would be prevented by issuing only a restricted quantity just sufficient for the requirements of the consumers.

It was reported by the Regional Food Commissioner that about 120 tons of gram were impor-

ted from Central Provinces recently by a private merchant of this Province, when the Government of India asked him to sell his stocks to Madras Government. It was stated that this would be looked into.

It was also stated by Cochin and Travancore that some gram was recently allowed to be exported by private merchants to Tranvancore and Cochin on a permit issued by the Commissioner of Civil Supplies in his proceedings L.Dis. 166524-V/48 dated 25.1.1949. The Cochin and Travancore Governments protested against issue of such permits.

It was stated by the Regional Food Commissioner that such movements presumably occured during the transition from decontrol to recontrol and that such things may not happen in future.

19. Delay in lifting foodgrains (gram) from exporting arreas.

It was reported that only700 tons of gram but of 20,000 tons was moved from Patiala while financial arrangements were made for only 5,000 tons. It was also reported that only charges for incidental expenses were paid in respect of the quota from Bikaner. It was also reported that there was similar delay in moving the quota of gram from Vindhya Pradesh. The Regional Food Commissioner wants the quotas to be moved before new crops come into the market. —— Madras agreed to look into the matter.

20. Replacement of excess supplies made to Cochin during 1945-46.

Regional Food Commissioner suggested to the Cochin representative that the excess may be repaid in instalments of 100 tons out of imports to be delivered to the Madras representative at Cochin. The Cochin representative agreed to this suggestion.

21. Supply of maize products to Travancore from Malabar during 1946-47.

The position was explained by Madras. It was also stated that the Collector has been asked to send a further report on the matter. It was promised to send a further report after the Collectors report is received.

22. Allotment of long wheat.

It was suggested by the Regional Food Commissioner that all the recipients in the Region should sent their requirement of long wheat to him and that he will ask for a consolidated allotment of long wheat from Hyderabad. Madras agreed to send particulars of their requirements.

23. Allotment of foodgrains from Central Reserve.

It was reported by the Regional Food Commissioner that on some occasions there was delay on the part of Madras in taking delivery of foodgrains allotted from the Central Reserve. It was explained by Madras that delay was due to transport difficulties. Madras, however, agreed to see that such delay were avoided.

24. Ban on polishing of rice.

Madras explained why ban on polishing of rice was given up in Madras on account of consumers complaints and how it will not be possible to prohibit completely polishing of rice. Coorg and Mysore Governments supported Madras. It was explained that only single polish was being given now. The consensus of opinion was that dehusking of rice alone should not be insisted on and that a single ~~subject~~ may be polish may be allowed. Regional Food Commissioner stated that the subject may be considered again after the reports called for from the Governments were received.

25. Import of bananas from Travancore State into the enclave villages of Anjengo and Tangasorri.

Madras desired that action should be taken soon by the Travancore Government.

26. Imposition of ban of the movement of Potatoes by the Mysore Government.

It was explained by the Mysore Government that the ban on the export of potatoes was imposed at the instance of the Military and that the ban was withdrawn from 1.2.1949 and that it would be reimposed again from 1.3.1949. The procedure for export after 1.3.49 was explained by Mysore. It was stated that the cultivator will be allowed to export 1/2 his yeild. It was also reported that about 3,000 tons would be available for export. Madras suggested that the export quotas to usual recipient areas from Mysore may be fixed by the Mysore Government and exports allowed to such areas so as to prevent the cultivator from exporting to areas, where he could get high prices. Mysore agreed to consider this suggestion, and wanted ~~to~~ Madras to take up the matter with Mysore regarding the requirements of the Province.

27. Specifications regarding bagging of imported foodgrains.

This /s/ was discussed under item 9.

28. The latest ruling of the Government of India that in open ports delivery of cargoes will be at ships' side.

Madras explained their case and stated, if Government of India insisted that delivery should be taken ex. — ships' side in the minor ports Madras on their parts would insist on delivered only at the major ports, thereby strining the Railways heavily. Regional Food Commissioner wanted Madras to put up the case for reconsideration and wanted the decision of Madras soon as a ship was expected at Calicut towards the end of the month.

(Sd) x x/8.3.49.
Superintendent.

/True copy/

NOTES ON THE AGENDA FOR THE 8TH REGIONAL FOOD CONFERENCE (BASIC PLAN) TO BE HELD AT MADRAS AT 11 A.M. ON 16.2.1949.

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Item 1. Desirability of having a uniform procurement policy in the Southern Region.

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The following are the systems of procurement of foodgrains adopted by the various Governments in the Southern Region.

Madras. Every person having a surplus of foodgrains shall sell the same to the Government only. In determining the surplus, the officer concerned shall take into account the quantity of paddy or rice or millets required by such person.

(a) for consumption by himself and his household,
(b) for payment of rent or interest in kind or for the repayment of loans in kind, where they are due in kind,
(c) for payment to his tenant by way of advance for agricultural expenses, where it is usual to make such advances,
(d) as seeds for cultivation and wages to to labourers employed by him, and
(e) for payment to the village artisan or other persons entitled to recieve it as a customary remuneration for services.

Delivery of the foodgrains should be made to the officer appointed for the purpose in the village in which it was cultivated and at the price notified by the officer.

No person shall, except for the purposes specified in (a) to (e) above, sell or otherwise dispose of, whether as paddy or rice, any quantity of paddy or millets cultivated or received by him, to any person other than the Officer appointed for the purpose.

The intensive procurement of millets is, however, limited to persons cultivating not less than 10 acres in extent.

Mysore.

1. Government to purchase the entire surplus stock of food grains available with the ryots.

2. Small holders of land having (i) less than 5 acres of dry land or (ii) less than 3 acres of wet land under tank or irrigated by other sources of water supply including rain water (iii) less than 2 acres of wet land under river channel to be exempted under the scheme of monopoly procurement, but any surplus of foodgrains with such holders to be sold to Government only.

3. In respect of other land holders the following quantities of foodgrains shall be allowed — to be retained or possessed for use for their bonafide purposes:

(a) The quantity required for consumption for one year or till the next harvest, whichever is earlier, by the holder, his dependents, tenants, if any, working under him, and farm labourers, if any, employed by him on such land;

(b) the quantity required for any special purpose sanctioned as seed for such land;

(c) the quantity required for any special purpose sanctioned by the Amildar on application in writing; and

(d) the quantity required for payment on 'miras' in kind to nirgantis, toties of the village which the foodgrains are grown is situated to the extent that such payment in kind is prescribed for the holder.

Land Taxes

4. Collection of land revenue in kind wherever it is feasible.

The Mysore Government have further stated that the percentage of surplus which will escape as a result of exemption of 5 acres of dry land will be very little where as in the case of procurement to some extent. wet lands the exemption granted seems to produce the target of

Cochin.

Monopoly procurement of paddy is in force in Cochin State under which all surpluses with cultivators are procured directly by the State Government. This scheme has been working in the State since February 1943. Every land-holder shall within 7 days from the date on which the crop raised on the land is harvested submit a true and correct return in the prescribed form regarding the total quantity realised and total quantity required for domestic consumption etc, to the Tahsildar within whose jurisdiction such lands are situated. This clause does not apply to a land holder whose land does not exceed one acre.

Travancore.

1. There will be no procurement of paddy in respect of holdings not exceeding — two acres in extent.

2. Holdings exceeding two acres and up to four acres - No procurement in respect of the first two acres. In respect of the balance areas, procurement will be effected at 20 paras per acres.

3. Holdings exceeding four acres and up to six acres - There will be no procurement in respect of the first one acre. In respect of the balance area, procurement will be effected at 20 paras per acre.

4. Holdings exceeding six acres and up to eight acres - Procurement will be effected in respect of the entire area at 20 paras per acre.

5. Holdings exceeding eight acres - Procurement will be effected in respect of the entire area at 25 paras per acre. Besides this the total excess after making the following deduction will also be surrendered to Government.

(a) Allowance for domestic consumption at three nazhies of paddy per adult per day (two-nonadults being considered equivalent to one adult.)

(b) Cultivation expenses at the following rates:-

(i) Kalayal lands.	30	paras per acre
(ii) Other Punja lands.	27	" " "
(iii) Virppu and other land.	21	" " "

6. Notwithstanding the complete exemption from procurement in respect of holdings up to two acres in extent and the partial exemption in respect of two to six acres in extent, it will still be open to the cultivators thereof to sell to Government whatever excess quantity they may be in a postion to dispose of.

Coorg.

There is no monopoly procurement of paddy or rice in Coorg. It is proposed to introduce non-statutory system of rationing in Coorg with effect from 2.3.1949 under which the crop of each grower is to be assessed at the time of harvest and surplus determined and requisitioned after allowing for him, the quantity of paddy required for the consumption of himself, his family etc., according the scale of ration prescribed and for seed and other purposes. Unlike Madras and other Governments, the procurement of paddy is not done by Government directly. The Coorg Administration have appointed two Chief Agents for the procurement of paddy and rice required both for export and for internal consumption as well as for provincial reserve.

General.

Except in Coorg in all other areas the Government monopoly system of procurement is being followed. The system followed in Cochin and Madras is more or less identical. In Travancore the levy system has been recently replaced by a system of procurement more or less similar to that in Mysore. Both Travancore and Mysore have exmpted small land holders from Compulsory procurement. Will it not be more appropriate to have a uniform system in the whole region and remove the existing inequalities?

An extract from a note "Suggestions re-

garding Procurement" by Sri S.N. BANARJEE, Assistant Regional Controller of Procurement Jalpaiguri, sent to the Ministry of Food is given below:-

"I . . . . . suggest that we should immediately introduce "Advance purchase scheme Immediately after the sowing period, Government should issue directions to enter into forward contract with all the tillers of the soil and make payment of at least Rs. 5/- per md. in advance for the promised quota of paddy that the tiller will promise, with this rider that in case of his failure to give delivery his land will be forfeited to Government. The balance of the price will be paid to him when he completes delivery. Assessment of anticipated stock and credentials regarding dependability of persons contracted with, should be left to the discretion of local officers. This advance, if paid to the farmers at the lean period will not only bind them too offer their supplies to Government but will also work as an incentive to grow more. The money they will earn during the period when they normally remain financially bankrupt will not only be helpful to them but will aid in building community interest in respect of food policy along with Government. Thus political gamblings at the cost of food will end. Each cultivator entering into a contract will have to execute an agreement — on 2 rupees worth stamped paper which will also be another source of revenue to Government."

This has been communicated to the Governments in the region for obtaining their views.

Item 2. Finalisation of the Allotment of Food Grains for the Kharif year 1948--49 (Suggested by Travancore Government).

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Notes by Travancore Government.

The question of allocation of food-grains for the kharif year 1948-49 was discussed at the Food Conference held in Calcutta on the 26th and 27th November 1948. The allocation for the year has not yet been communicated. The final allocation may be arranged to be communicated, without further delay, to enable the deficit areas to plan their distribution well in advance.

Notes by the Regional Food Commissioner.

The following quantities of foodgrains have been so far allotted to Travancore.

	Rice	Wheat	Other grains.
November, 1948.	14,500	1,000	--
December, 1948	10,000	2,000	--
January, 1949	20,000	- -	-
February, 1949	20,000	- -	-
Total.	64,500	3,000	--

Further allocation for the rest of the year is awaited. Travancore's case has been fully explained to Government of India and it is hoped it will get its usual quota.

Item 3. Supply of foodgrains on quarterly allocation (basis. (Suggested by Travancore Government.)

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Notes from Travancore Government.

Pending final allocation of foodgrains for the Kharif year 1948-49, the a quotas of foodgrains required by deficit areas are, at present, allotted montly. In spite of the allotment of ~~food position~~ quota of 20,000 tons rice to Travacore for January 1949, the food position in the State is still not satifactory. The necessity for a six week's reserve stock or at least the availability of working stocks to meet two weeks' requirements is very keenly felt. The ceiling import quota allotted to the State for the year 1948 was supplied on quarterly allocations and an advance supply was made during the second quarter of 1948. This helped to ease the food position in the state to a considerable extent. Arrangements may, therefore, be made with the Government of India to allocate the annual quota on quarterly basis and to make supplies sufficiently in advance during the quarter (February to April 1949) so that the State may be enabled to build up a small reserve.

Notes by the Regional Food Commissioner.

During 1948 Ceiling import Quotas for each Government were fixed and quarterly allocations were made for the first and second quarters. During the 3rd quarter, monthly allotments were —— made as and when supplies were available against the ceiling - import quota. The stock position of each Government is examined by the Ministry of Food with reference to monthly Food Budgets and quotas are allotted on monthly basis and requirements for the months are duly considered in making these allocations. The stock on hand the expected local procurement

Item 4. Allotment of Overseas rice for January and (February '49 (Suggested by Madras Government.)

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Notes by Madras Government.

The following are the quotas allotted:-

For January 1949.	5000 tons.
For February 1949.	5000 tons.

The Regional Food Commissioner was requested to arrange for the supply of 5000 tons allotted for January 1949

at the Madras Harbour, Port it is understood that the 5000 tons of rice allotted from Coorg are in lieu of the 5000 tons of Overseas rice allotted for January. Official confirmation has not yet been received.

Allotment for February 1949:- 5000 tons.

According to the intimation received, Steamer Valhall is expected at Calcut by the end of February 1949, with 5125 tons of Burma rice.

Notes by the Regional Food Commissioner.

The Ministry of Food have intimated the following allotments of rice to Madras for January and February '49.

January '49	5,000 (tons)
February '49.	5,000 (tons)

It is not known whether the Ministry of Food intend to supply 5,000 tons rice to Madras from imports against their January quota. They have however allotted in January 1949 5,000 tons rice from Coorg for the Kharif year 1948-49. The Ministry of Food have been addressed to intimate whether the quota of 5,000 tons rice for January '49 will be supplied to Madras from overseas.

For February '49 the quota of 5,000 tons rice will be supplied to Madras ex SS. Valhall expected at Calcut port in February '49.

This ships is expected to discharge an additional quantity of 125 tons to replace the loan of 125 tons given to ships stores.

Item 5. (Deleted-)

Item 6. Monthly allotment of food grains for Februray and March '49 and their points of delivery. (Suggested by Madras Government.

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Notes by Madras Government.

Rice:- Please see notes under item 4.

Millets:- The Government of India have not so far allocated any quota milo or millets to this province for February. The present stocks of 18,423 tons of millets and maize in the province on 22.1.1949 together with the consignments under transit from the January shipments are not sufficient to meet the increasing demands of the districts till the end of February 1949. According to the statistical estimate of requirements, worked out on the basis of the population entitled to draw rations, the full total monthly requirements are over 40,000 tons. On account of the adverse seasonal conditions in several districts and the poor availability of local supplies, in order to implement the measures taken for the incre-

duction of rural rationing, further supplies from outside are necessary during February 1949. Considering these demands it is desirable that this province, is allotted 3 milo ships (or 27,000 tons of milo) during February 1949-one each at Madras, Cochin and Tuticorin ports.

March:- For this month also a similar quota of 3 ships or 27,000 tons of milo may be allotted. It is possible that the demand in March may be slgightly less, on account of the fact that supplies out of the main harvest may become available in limited quantities in certain districts. Taking this aspect into consideration, if it is considered not possible to allot a quota of as much as 3 ships, it is necessary that at least 2 ships are allotted to Madras during March 1949. The points or ports of delivery for the above quota will be determined later after watching the actual demands from the districts.

Wheat and Wheat products:- The January quota was fixed as, 7,000 tons and this quota was allotted from the following ships:-

1. Wheat SS. Aidalauro at Madras. 200 tons
2. Mida S.S. Moraya bank at Madras. 1,500 "
3. Wheat S.S. Orsalino at Tutinorin. 2000 "
4. Wheat S.S. Bara Fairle at Madras. 1300 "
5. Wheat S.S. Ventobine Biboline at Cochin. 2000"

The ships noted against "item 1 to 3 have arrived and each ships has landed the quantities noted below and they have been allotted to this Province:-

1. S.S. Aidalaure.	786 tons.
2. S.S. Moraybank.	500 tons.
3. S.S. Orsalino.	700 tons.

This excess of 1986 tons has to be treated as quotas for February. According to the Food Budget estimates for February submitted recently, the stocks of wheat and wheat products in this province including the stocks expected to be received by the end of the month will last till the end of March 1949 only. Inorder to continue the issue of wheat andwheat products without difficulty after 1.4.1948, it is essential that there should be sufficient stocks in the several districts on 1.4.1949. It is therefore suggested that, if the Government of India Ministry of Food could not allot any further quotas in February, at least 10,000 tons may be allotted from ships expected to arrive early in March 1949. The 10,000 tons may be sent to Madras and Tuticorin ports as shown below:-

Madras. 8,000
Tuticorin. 2,000

Notes by the Regional Food Commissioner.

	Allotment.	Shipwise allocation.
February, 1949. Rice.	500 tons.	5125 tons ex s.s. Valhall, expected at Calicut by the end of February.

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	Allotment.	Shipwise allocation.
Wheat and wheat products.	Nil.	1000 tons Semolinea ex s.s. Dongola, expected at Madras by 19.2.4 (The position regarding January 49 as stated by Madras is correct except that S.S. Baron Fairlie has since arrive at Madras on 5.2.49 and ~~pers~~ SS Vontabina Bibolina at Cochin port on 4.2.49 and that Madras also received 1150 tons wheat against January quota ex SS. Virginia which arrived at Tuticorin on 2.1.49.
March '49	No information.	No information.

Item 7. Revision of the procedure for payment of cost of imported food grains (Suggested by Travancore Government.)

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Notes by Travancore Government.

From August 1947 onwards the cost of foodgrains allotted to the State is being remitted in advance. This system has been in force for the last 1½ years and the main difficulties observed in the practical working of the system are as follows:-

(i) Remittances are always demanded and made on the quanitity of foodgrains allotted from each vessel. The actual quantity delivered is however, less than the qauntity allotted. Some amount is therefore, found due to the State under each item of remittance.

(ii) The debit notes from the Deputy Accountant General (Food and Relief) New Delhi, are not received in the chronological order of supply and there is considerable delay in the receipt of these debit notes also. Consequently the refund of adjustment of the excess amount due to the state is being delayed and funds to a large extent are laying locked up.

To overcome these difficulties, it has been suggested to the Government of India that the cost of foodgrains supplied to the State might, in future, be remitted within a reasonable time (say one week) after the delivery of the quota is completed and the consignee's repeipt furnished. Under the revised arrangement funds would not remain locked up for long time and instructions for delivery of the allotted quotas could be issued before the arrival of the steamers without waiting for the remittance to be made.

Incidentally, the question of expediting settlement of the pending claims relating to supplies of foodgrains made to the State may also be taken up with the Deputy Accountant-General and arrangements made to refund the balance amount due.

Notes by the Regional Food Commissioner.

The question of pre-payment by States of the cost of imported foodgrains allotted to them has been carefully considered by the Government of India Ministry of Food, who have decided that the existing procedure must continue. In order, however, to minimise the period any amount remitted is blocked up, it has been decided by the Regional Food Commissioner, that while placing demands the following time table will be fixed:-

Expected date of arrival of ship.	Last date by which remittance advice should be recieved.
1. When a specific date is known.	- 4 days prior to the date of expected arrival.
2. Early in the month.	-2nd of the month.
3. Middle of the month.	- 10th of the month.
4. End of the month.	- 21st of the month.

(For this purpose "1st week" will be considered as "early in the month" "last week" as "end of the month" and "2nd/3rd week" as "middle of the month".)

Intimation regarding remittance should reach according to the dates specified for each shipment. If, however, for any reasons, it is not possible to remit the amount on the due date the States should intimate the exact date on which the remittance be will be made so as to consider the release of quotas by the Regional Food Commissioner in anticipation of remittance before or immeidately on arrival of ships. The suggestion of Travancore Government that they should be allowed to pay within a week of the issue of Consignees' receipts is incompatible with the policy of pre-payment and cannot therefore be accepted. The Ministry of States in their letter No. F. I (26)-IB/48 dated 15.1.49 addressed to all States (including Hyderabad, Cochin, Travancore and Mysore) have stated that the Government of India have decided that the States should complete financial arrangments immediately on receipt of allocation advices failing which the quotas would be liable to cancellation as failure to make prompt payment indicates that there is no real urgency for supplies.

A detailed statment of accounts relating to the Travancore State for the period ending 31st May 1948 prepared by the Deputy Accountant - General (Food and Relief) has been sent to the Travancore Government for reconsiliation.

(Notes by Cochin Government.)

According to the present arrangements the cost of

(x) Item 8. Procedure for remitting the cost of imported foodgrains in advance (Suggested by Cochin Government)

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imported foodgrains has to be paid in advance as soon as requisition for remittance is received from the Regional Food Commissioner, Madras. Release orders are issued by the Regional Food Commissioner only on receipt of credit intimation. This arrangement has been in operation since August 1947. Experience has shown that it causes hardship to the State. The Government of India have therefore to be moved to allow the State to take delivery of the quotas without advance payment, to set off the subsidy due from the centre against the price of foodgrains and to allow the accounts relating to food supplies being settled once in six months.

Notes by the Regional Food Commissioner.

The Cochin Government have addressed the Ministry of States regarding difficulties due to having to pay cost in advance and suggesting that prepayment in their case may be waived, that the subsidy due to the State may be set off againt the price of foodgrains and that accounts relating to food supplies may be settled once in six months. (Please see item 7 also.)

Item 9. Revised arrangements for clearing of foodgrains at Madras and Cochin ports from 1.2.49 introduced by the Government of India (Suggested by the Madras Government.)

Notes by the Madras Government.

The Government of India have decided to give up with effect from 1.2.1949 the Clearing of imported foodgrains at Madras and Cochin ports through private agencies and entrust such work to departmental officers of the Government of India at these ports. The following points require elucidation.

Weighment of foodgrains:- It has been stated that the Government of India officers at the ports will clear the cargo and deliver it to the recipient administrations at the delivery points. It is therefore presumed that the Government of India will make necessary arrangements to weigh the foodgrains before delivery. This is important as there are no facilities for weighing at the actual point of delivery viz. ships side, quay or Transit sheds. The facilities exist only in the railway weighbridge which is some distance away from these points.

Congigneeds receipts:- It has been stated that the officers of the Government of India will deliver the foodgrains to the recipient at the delivery points and obtain a receipt for the quantity delivered. As there are no facilities for weighing at the delivery points, the question arises as to the quantity for which a receipt is to be issued and when it should be issued-

Retaring of wagons:- It is reported that the retaring of empty wagons was hitherto done by the Madras

port Trust at the instance of the Government of India who bore these charges." It is prosumed that the Government of India will bear these charges even after 1.2.1949.

Issue of clear receipts:- It is desirable that clear Railway receipts showing clearly, the number of bags and weight loaded in the waggons are issued by the Railways in order to prevent losses to the recipient Governments, due to shortage in transit. It is reported that the Port Trust authorities refuse to issue such receipts unless some stringent conditions laid down by them are satisfied.

Notes by the Regional Food Commissioner.

Weighment procedure and consignee's receipts.

Necessary arrangements for weighment before delivery will be made by the Government of India, Ministry of Food. In order to ensure correct accounting of number of bags and weight of grain delivered to the Forwarding Agents of the recipients at the Ports, detailed instructions have been issued to the clearance staff.

It has been agreed that the consignees' receipts in respect of deliveries to the Madras Government will be issued by their Forwarding Agents. The form of consignee's receipts will be same as in existence upto 31.1.49, except that it will be signed by the recipient's Forwarding Agents on behalf of that Administration.

Regarding weighment in respect of despatches by lorries, empty lorries will be first weighed in the presence of a Dock Inspector and again after being loaded with foodgrains. The particulars of weights etc. will be entered by the Dock Inspector in a prescribed form in which the recipients' representative will be required to sign. Two copies of the completed form will also be given to the representative of the recipient. The totals of weights of foodgrains in each lorry will be struck up.the

Similar procedure will also be adopted in the case of despatches by rail.

The quantity to be signed for in the final consignee's receipt will be the total of the weights of foodgrains. ex each lorry rail wagon, in respect of each ship. Consignees receipts should be made out and handed over immediately on completion of deliveries from each shipment.

Taining ~~tmaining~~ (At Cochin Port a similar method of maintenance tally of bags loaded into wagons & lorries will be followed. As however there is no provision for cent per cent weighment, an account of bags weighed will be maintained in a "Record of weighment". The average wight of bags and the total weight of bags consigned will be worked out in the same form.)

Retaring of wagons. Necessary arrangements

will be made by the Government of India staff for the taring and retaring of wagons at Madras and bills from the Port Trust at Madras will be received and paid for by the Government of India.

θ Issue of clear receipts. The Government of India are not concerned with this matter, which is for settlement between the Madras Government and their Forwarding Agents.

Item 10 allotment and movement of surplus rice in Coorg during the Kharif year 1948-49.

The surplus of 11,800 tons rice offered by Coorg for the Kharif year 48-49 (1-11-48 to 31.10.49) is allotted to Madras and Mysore as follows:-

Madras	5,000 tons.
Mysore.	6,000 tons.

400

In November '48 tons Coorg rice was allotted to Mysore. It is presumed that this 400 tons is included in the allotment of 6800 tons rice to Mysore, from Coorg for the period 1.11.48 to 31.10.49. A quantity of 323 tons has been despatched to Mysore upto 15.1.49. It is essential that the quotas allotted from Coorg should move immediately as procurement will be dificult when monsoon begins.

While communicating the allotment of surplus rice in Coorg the Ministry of Food have reported that the rice position during 1949 will be extremely difficulty In view of this and the good rice crop in Coorg this year, the Commissioner of Coorg has been requested to take necessary steps to offer a larger surplus this year. The following are the particulars of production and surplus in Coorg during the last three years:-

(all in tons.)

Particulars.	1945-46	1946-47	1947-48	1948-49-
1. Estimated production.	43,000	41,000	34,000	40,000
2. Declared surplus.	13,400	16,530	10,400	11,800

Coorg should be able to declare a surplus of about 16,000 tons. The Chief Commissioner of Coorg states that when the paddy crop is thrashed and outturn ascertained about the middle of February '49 he will be in a position to say whether any further surplus can be declared or not.

Item No.11. Allotment of rice from Coorg. (Suggested by Madras Government.

Notes by Madras Government:-

A quota of 5,000 tons of rice has been allotted from Coorg to Madras Province for the Kharif Year 1948-49

Details regarding price, procurement and whether delivery will be in the shape of rice or paddy are awaited from the Coorg Administration.

Notes by the Regional Food Commissioner.

The allotment of 5,000 tons rice to Madras from Coorg was communicated to Madras on 7.1.49. The action taken by the Madras Government to procure the quota has not so far, been intimated. They have been reminded.

Item No. 10 12. Introduction of Rationing in Coorg.

- - -

With reference to Government of India's decision to reimpose control over the distribution of foodgrains, Coorg have decided to reintroduce non statutory system of rationing in Coorg with effect from 1.3.49.

Item No. 13. Payment of subsidy for imported food grains (Suggested by Travancore Government.)

Notes by Travancore Government.

In their letter No.PY. 619/34, dated 25.9.1948, the Government of India intimated that in respect of imported foodgrains, the subsidy will be shared between the states and the Centre in equal proportion. It was also stated that quotas will initially be fixed for each State showing what that unit is entituled to receive from the Centre, that these quotas will be the limit of the quantities on which subsidy will be payable and that the subsidy will be calculated on the cost of imported foodgrains (on arrival at the point of consumption) and the issue rate of the unit. These decisions were to apply in respect of supplies made after 1st October 1948 and would remain in force till the first of April 1949. The State Governments were also told that they might make their plans on the assumption that the subsidy was likely to be extended till the end of the Kharif crop year. The sale of rice alone is subsidised by the Travancore Government. The idd difference between the cost on arrival at the point of consumption and the issue rate is Rs. 140/- per ton which works out to Rs. 5 1/7 per maund. This difference is to be shared by the State and the Centre in equal proportion. It will naturally take some time to work out the details of the procedure for payment of subsidy to the State. In the meantime it would be of help to the state if the Central Government could set off their portion of the subsidy against the cost now fixed for rice, supplied to the State from imports. In other words, the cost of imported rice at present is Rs. 22-11-0 per maund and the Central Government's share of the subsidy due to the State is about Rs. 2-9-0 per maund. This a share of the subsidy may be adjusted against the cost of rice and the State Government charged only at Rs. (22-11-0 minus Rs. 2-9-0) 20-2-0 per maund of rice supplied from imports. The final adjustments on account of cost of supplied and subsidy could be effected subsequently. This proposal may be consi-

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dered and the Central Government requested to approve this arrangements and give effect to the same at a very early date.

Item 14. Payment of bonus on food grains locally procured (Suggested by Travancore Government.)

Notes by Travancore Government.

In their letter cited above, it was also announced by the Government of India that the Provinces and States will get a bonus of 8 annas per maund of foodgrains procured by them and an additional bonus of 8 annas per maund on quantities exported by them under the Basic Plans. It was further stated that in the case of States this decision would come into force as from the 1st of October 1948 and that the bonus would be earmarked for increasing food production and that the Central Government would take steps necessary to ensure that this was being done. So far as Travancore is concerned no export of foodgrains is made under the Basic Plan. Early steps have to be taken to make the procurement bonus available to the State Government.

Notes by the Regional Food Gra Commissioner.

Hitherto the Government of India have not received any claim for payment of food bonus. As suitable provision has been made in the budget of the Central Government for 1948-49 to cover this expenditure the Ministry of Food have requested the Provincial/ State Governments that their claim, if any, for bonus from 1.1.48/10-48 may be forwarded to the Ministry before the end of January '49 in respect of the period upto 31.12.48. For the la st quarter of the year i.e. 1.1.49 to 31.3.49 the Governments have been requested to send by 15.2.49 and 15.3.49 respectively to the Government of India particulars in respect of the months January and February '49. For March 1949 the particulars hae to be telegraphed to the Ministry of Food so as to reach them not later than the 6th April '49. Intimation of the action taken by the Governments is awaited.

Item 15. Inferior quality of some variety of imported rice. Suggested by Cochin Government.

Notes by Cochin Governme nt.

The imported rice supplied now consists of a larger portion of broken rice and some glutinuas awhole and broken rice. The broken rice consists of many varieties, the major portion consisting of very small brokens and powder. The glutinous whole and broken rice cannot be cooked properly. They on cooking become a pasty substance. It is very hard to issue these varieties of rice to the consumers, especially when their price is the same as that of good quality whole rice and the consumers have no other go but to purchase whatever variety issued. It is therefore essential that either such varieities of rice are not imported or a lower price is charged.

Notes by the Regional Food Commissioner.

Cochin recently complained that the Siam rice received by them contained glutinuous whole and broken rice, besides a large percentage of other brokens and that the glutinious rice was of a very inferior quality which, on cooking, became pasty. They therefore requested that supplies of Siam and Burma Rice might be made in equal proportions to the total allotments to each Area. Their present request is that either

(a) such varieties of rice should not be imported or

(b) a lower price should be charged.

Regarding (a) above, no comments.

Regarding (b) the Ministry of Food in their letter No. PI- 15'8 (35) Acts, dated 11.1.49, addressed to Regional Food Commissioner's intimating the pool price for imported food grains from 1.1.1949, have stated as follows:-

"The imported foodgrains are being obtained from various countries at varying prices and the pool prices mentioned above represent the estimated weighted average price paid or likely to be paid by the Central Government for supplies received from all sources. There is, therefore, no question of any claim for refractions etc., for variations in conditions or quality of the consignments of the same variety of foodgrains received from different sources"

Item 16. Supply of Broken rice (Suggested by Cochin Government.)

Notes by Cochin Government.

As large portion of the imported rice consists of broken rice. This is being distributed to the ration card holders along with whole rice, the portion of the broken **rice may got easily deteriorated. About 1/3 of recent arrivals of imported rice is broken rice. It will be very hard to the consumers if the proportion of the broken rice in the ration increased. To meet the situation the supplies of rice in future may be arranged as much as possible in whole rice.

**rice issued being 1/8 of the total rice ration. Even then it is found very difficult to dispose of the stock, and if kept long this. piee m

Item No. 17. Export of controlled foodgrains. (Suggested by Cochin Government.)

Notes by Cochin Government.

In the case of export of foodgrains which have been controlled it is desirable that the Government of the area to which they are despatched is consulted before the export permit is issued unless the foodgrains are in transit. This is necessary to have an effective control over these articles and also to

avoid unhealthy competition on the part of private individuals as against dealers selected by the Government for import and distribution of the article.

Item No. 18. Reimposition of Control over Gram - Ban on both imports and Exports.

- - -

While announcing the new food policy, the Ministry of Food have decided to have control over the movement and distribution of all the food grains including gram.

The Madras Government, in their letter dated 10.11.40 informed the Ministry of Food their intentions of not imposing any control over Bengal Gram for the following reasons:-

1. The Production of gram in the Province is only 13,000 tons and its cultivation is confined only to a few districts.

2. Most of the produce is mostly consumed by the producers themselves and very little out of it comes into the Market.

3. The production of distribution of gram is not controlled by the World Food Council and there is therefore no reason why any control should be imposed on such of the quantities as come from outside India.

Madras Government, therefore stated that any interference with the import of gram now is likely to affect adversely the food position of the Provinces. Therefore, they have stated that they do not propose to impose any control over Bengal-gram except the following:-

(i) reimposition of ban on movements from the Province.

(ii) Purchase of quotas allotted by the Government of India by the Government themselves and distribution of such purchases to selected merchants in the Province.

(iii) Fixing the sale price by the merchants to whom the quotas allotted by the Governmen of India are distributed by Madras Government.

The Madras Government have also stated that no control will be imposed on stocks already in the hands of the merchants and also on stocks that may be imported by merchants from overseas.

The Ministry of Food in their letter dated 21.12.48 have informed the Government of Madras that their proposal to exempt particular stocks of gram from control is not only objectionably on principle but would lead to practical difficulties. Further, there is no reason why particular stocks of gram should be exempted from control as particular stocks of other controlled foodgrains, for example rice or wheat are not exempted. And if the price of one set of stocks is left uncontrol there will be two sets of prices. The Government c India have therefore informed the Madras & Government that they cannot allow exemption of any particular st in Madras from price control.

The Madras Government have therefore informed the Ministry of Food in their letter dated 6.1.49 that they do not propose to import gram and its products direct from outside India. Even during the last control period Madras did not fix Ceiling prices for gram mainly in view of the fact that the supplying areas were fixing different prices and that the sale of gram imported by private merchants might have to be subsidised by the Government because in many cases the actual purchase prices of merchants were ~~above the ceiling prices of merchants were~~ above the ceiling rices. The same conditions ~~of~~ are prevailing now. The Madras Government have therefore decided to fix price only for the gram imported on Government account.

How then can gram imported on Government account be distinguished from gram imported by private merchants and their respective prices controlled?

Item No. 19. Delay in procurement of quota allotted from internal sources.

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The Government of India desire that the recipeint Administrations should arrange for the immediate procurement of quotas of food grains allotted to them from internal sources. The Ministry of Food had occasion to notice that the recipeints have not contacted the supplying Administrations to procure their quotas. The delay on the part of the recipeint governments to lift their quotas from the surplus areas would not only inconvenience the supplying areas but would also lead to deterioration of the food grains.

Item 20. Replacement of excess supplies made to Cochin during 1945-46. (Suggested by Madras Government.)

- - -

Government. Notes by Madras.

Against the via Madras allotment to Cochin, made during the Kharif Year 1945-46, a quantity of 500 tons of rice was supplied in excess. The Regional Food Commissioner who was requested to arrange for the replacement of the 500 tons by Cochin intimated that in view of the difficult food position, Cochin would not be able to supply 500 tons in the near future.

Notes by the Regional Food Commissioner.

The Madras Government reported in June 47 that an excess quantity of 474.89 tons rice was supplied to Cochin against the allotment of rice under via Madras arrangement for 1945-46. The Cochin Government reported that in view of their low stock position then, it was not possible for them to replace the a quantity. In February 48 the Madras Government enquired whether the Government of Cochin were in a position to replace the excess supply made to them. The Madras Government were then requested to report the actual quantity of excess supply made to Cochin and they reported that the quantity to be replaced by Cochin Government as 500 tons. In view of the difficult food position in Cochin and in view of the additional quotas of food grains allotted to

Madras during 1948, the Madras Government were addressed not to insist on the return of excess quantity of 500 tons rice supplied to Cochin 2 years ago. The Madras Government had also supplied a quantity of 38 tons rice in excess to the Travancore Government against the via Madras arrangement during 1945-46. The Travancore Government agreed to adjust the excess quantity of 38 tons of rice suppled to the State during the Kharif year 45-46 against the balance quota of rice due to Travancore from Madras. The Madras Government therefore requported that it would not be fair to exempt the Cochin Government from that returning the excess quantity of rice supplied to them. They however agreed to wait till Cochin was in a position to replace the quantity within a reasonable period. The Cochin Government have been addressed in the Matter and their reply is awaited.

Item No. 21. Supply of Maize products to Travancore from Malabar during 1946-47.

• • •

The Commissioner of Civil Supplies, Madras has presented a bill for the supply of maize and maize flour supplied to the Travancore State from Madras Province. According to it 24182 bags (53539) maunds 5 shers which included 734 bags weighing 1468 maunds of maize flour were sent from Malabar to Travancore in December '46 against the allotment of 4000 tons from the Madras Province. A sum of Rs. 2891-14-0 has been claimed by the Madras Government towards milling charges of this quantity at Rs. 2-0-6 per maund. The Travancore Government have stated that this maize flour has not been recieved by them. The Collector of Malabar, however reports that the maize products were taken from the Government godowns at Palghat and despatched to Messrs. Vokart Brothers, Calicut for shipment to Travancore. But the Commissioner of Civil Supplies, Trivandrum who consulted Messrs. Vokart Brothers and also the Travancore He Rice Special Officer, Cochin and the Foodgrains Deport Officer, Alleppey who received the S Congignment of maize despatched from Calicut, affirms that no maize flour was received by them from Malabar and as such the milling charges of Rs. 2981-14-0 are not payable by the Travancore Government. The Commissioner of Civil Supplies Madras has been requested to examine the matter and send the relevant records from the Collector of Malabar for arriving at a satisfactory solution.

Item No.22 Allotment of Long Wheat to Travancore (Suggested by Travacnore Government.

Notes from Travancore Government.

This variety of wheat is in great demand for dietetic purposes and long wheat has been in short supply for a considerably long time now. The present allotment of 30 tons long wheat made to the State from Hyderabad is too small to meet even the immediate requirements of the people in the State. An adequate supply of long wheat to the State has therefore to be arranged by taking up the matter with the Government of India.

Notes by the Regional Food Commissioner.

The Ministry of Food have allotted to

Travancore an additional quota of 40 tons long wheat from Hyderabad. This has been intimated to Travancore. It is up to them to finalise financial arrangements and expedite movement.

Item No. 23. Allotment of food grains from Central Reserve.

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It has been the experience in this Regions that the Recipient Governments are not prompt in lifting the quotas allotted to them from the Central Reserves. Apart from the question of possible deterioration to the grains, resulting therefrom, such delay leads also to loss due to dryage. The Government of India will not be responsible for such losses. The quotas are allotted from the depots in the knowledge that food grains are required to meet the immediate requirements and if the recipient Governments do not lift the quotas within a reasonable time after the receipt of the delivery order the Government of India will be naturally constrained to presume that the recipient Government is not in need of the grain and cancel the quota and reallot it to other needy areas.

Item No. 24. Ban on polishing of rice.

. . .

While announcning the new Food Policy the Ministry of Food have stated that polishing of rice should be banned in order to augument supplied and to provide nutritively better rice, and that their decision will be communicated to the Governments separately.

The intention underlying the ban on polishing of rice is to avoid to the maximum extent the loss of the nutritive part of the rice, which occurs in milling and the loss on outturn which occurs as a result of brokens and bran produced in milling and polishing. However, there exist certain practical difficulties in the way of defining precisely what unpolished rice should be.

Government of India are advised that unpolished rice gets infested more easily than polished rice. Such infestation however does not have deleterious effection the grain. The insects only eat away some of the nutrients which are present in the bran. Unless stored in suitable structures and turned over quickly (within 3 to 4 months) dehusked rice is liable to grow rancid.

There are two types of rice mills in India (i) The huller type (ii) the sheller type.

~~There are two types of rice mills in India~~

The Ministry of Food have Reported that in the Central Provinces it has been found that if the following adjustments are made in the hullers the desired result, i.e. the closet approximation to dehusked rice, can be secured:

(a) A huller screen of 20 lots,

(b) A & B shells of 5" diameter each and adjusted so that the ribs are in perfect alignment.

(c) The blade of 2¾" width with only ¾" clearance between the blade and the shells,

(d) suction and delivery openings almost full open according to the pressure needed by different varieties of paddy,

(e) The speed of huller not to exceed a maximum of 750 R.P.M.

With the above adjustments both parboiled and raw rice can be dehusked but in case of the latter the rice has to be passed three times through the huller. The Central Provinces Government have prescribed those adjustments for the machines of the huller type and propose to have them carried out under the supervision of their staff. Samples of rice produced, after the adjustments have been made, will be prepared and kept with different mills. The Central Provinces Government propose to have fequent inspections to ensure that the rice produced conforms to those samples.

Where this cannot at once be done, it would be better to appoint a local committee consisting of representatives of millers, consumers, Provincial/State Health Departments etc., to examine the various varieties of rice milled in the province State and prescribe representative samples of unpolished rice to which milling should conform.

The action taken by the Governments in the region is awaited.

(Sd) x x/2.12.
Regional Food Commissioner-in-charge,
Southern Region, Madras.

/True copy/

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF FOOD.

Telegram:RECOM
Telephone:84058

Office of the Regional Food Commissioner,
41, Whites Road, Royapettah P.o., Madras 14.

From

The Regional Food Commissioner,
Southern Region, Madras.

To

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Ministry of Food, New Delhi.
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Chepauk, Madras.
Lt. Col. A. M. A. Briganza,
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Food Department, Madras.
The Secretary to the Government of Cochin,
E R N A K U LA M.

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Secretary to the Government of Travancore,
T R I V A N D R U M.
The Secretary to the Government of Mysore,
Food and Civil Supplies Department,
B A N G A L O R E.
The Chief Commissioner of Coorge,
M E R C A R A
Major General Incharge of Administration,
Southern Command, P O O N A
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Commissioner of Civil Supplies,
Trivandnum.
K. Guru Dutt Esq.,
Director of Food Supplies in Mysore, Bangalore

No. 388/49/B1-12 dated 8th March '49

Sir,

CONFERENCE - 8th Regional Food Conference.

. . .

I enclose a copy of the proceedings of the Regional Food Conference, Southern Region held at my office on 16.2. 49.

Yours faithfully,
(sd) x x/8.3.

Regional Food Cimmissioner-Incharge

Copy with a copy of the Proceedings to:-
The Secretary to the Commissioner of Civil Supplies, Chepauk
Madras.

/True copy/

PROCEEDINGS THE EIGHTH REGIONAL FOOD CONFERENCE HELD AT 11 A.M. ON 16.2.1949 IN THE OFFICE OF THE REGIONAL FOOD COMMISSIONER SOUTHERN REGION, M A D R A S.

P R E S E N T.

1. S. Mahbub Mian, Esq., Regional Food Commissioner-in-charge, Southern Region.	Chairman.
2. P.G. Zachariah, Esq., Under Secretary to the Government Of India, Ministry of Food, New Delhi.	Representing Ministry of Food, Government of India.
3. N.S. Arunachalam, Esq.,I.C.S, Deputy Commissioner of Civil Supplies, Madras.	Representing Madras Government.
4. K. Guru Dutt, Esq., Director of Food Supplies in Mysore State, Bangalore.	Representing Mysore Government.
5. P. Balakrishna Pillai, Esq., Secretary to the Government of Travancore, Trivandrum.	Representing
6. T. K. Gopalan Nayar, Esq., Commissioner of Civil Supplies in Travancore, Trivandrum.	Travancore Government.
7. M. M. Paul, Esq., Director of Civil Supplies in Cochin, Ernakulam.	Representing Cochin Government.
8. C. T. Mudaliar, Esq., Chief Commissioner of Coorg, Mercara.	Representing Coorg Government.
9. Lt. Col. A.H.A. Braganza, R.I.A.S.C., C.R.I.A.S.C., Madras.	Representing Southern Command.
10. Captain T. V. K. Nayar	

Messrs. M. Kesavan Nair, Deputy Regional Food Commissioner, K.P. Thambi, Assistant Regional Food Commissioner, V. Margabandhu, Assistant Director (Inspection) and D.S. Varadhan, Deputy Principal Information Officer were also present.

Mr. J. Para, I.C.S., Assistant Commissioner of Civil Supplies (Movements) attended the afternoon session of the Conference.

2. The Chairman opened the Conference with a brief speech welcoming the delegates.

The various itams in the agenda were then discussed one by one.

3. Item 1 of the Agenda: Desirability of having a uniform procurement policy in the Southern Region.

The Chairman observed that the basis and methods of procurement of foodgrains adopted by the Governments of Madras, Mysore, Travancore and Cochin differed from one another and suggested that it would be desirable to examine the question of adopting a uniform policy of procurement by all the units in this region with such modification as might be found necessary to suit local conditions in particular areas. He invited the opinion of the representatives of the Governments on this suggestion.

Mr. Gurudutt, Director of Food Supplies in Mysore, said that in consonence with the all India Food Policy in regard to the regulation of foods supplies, the Mysore Government had reintroduced the monopoly procurement system of millets and paddy grown in Mysore on the lines enforced prior to decontrol. Under this system of monopoly procurement, the entire surplus foodgrains available would be procured by the Mysore Government except from small holders of land having (i) less than 5 acres of dry land or (ii) e less than 3 acres of wet land under tank or irrigated by other sources of water supply including ~~xivers channels~~.rain water, and (iii) less than 2 acres of wetland under rivers channels. He, however, added that any surplus of foodgrains with these exempted holders should be sold to the Government only. This grant of exemption is a departure from the principle of procurement which was till recently enforced in the State. He further stated that the scale of ration allowed to growers for domestic consumption has also been raised from 1 lb. to 19.3 oz. per adult per day.

These exemptions, Mr. Guru Dutt observed, were found necessary having regard to the general opposition to controls from agriculturists who form about 75% of the total population in Mysore State and to eliminate possible hardship to small holders of land from whom not much surplus could ordinarily be expected to be procured. He, however, estimated that the percentage of surplus which might escape as a result of exemption of 5 acres of dry land would be negligible, while in the case of wet land the exemptions granted might possibly tend to reduce procurement by about 2,500 tons. He added that the Mysore Government have issued notices, to such exempted holders of land that any surpluses with them should be placed at the disposal of the Govennment, and to induce them to do so they have offered a bonus of Rs. 2/- per palla (3 maunds of rice or 2 amaunds of paddy) provided they surrendered the surplus before the end of March 1949.

As regards dry crops (millets, rag etc.) Mr. Guru Dutt said, that according to the latest estimates Mysore could not hope to procure more than 22,000 tons as rains failed towards the end of the agr cultural season and materials affected the millet cro in the principal millet districts. In view of t

Mr. Guru Dutt said that a change in their policy of procurement at this moment was not desirable.

Mr. P.G. Zachariah, Under-Secretary in the Ministry of Food, pointed out that before the representatives made suggestions on the procurement policy, they should bear in mind the important fact that this year the Government of India would not be in a position to supply the Governments with anything over the quotas already indicated, on account of the dollar scarcity and the uncertain political conditions prevailing in the exporting areas and impressed on them the imperative need for an all out effert form intensive internal procurement.

Mr. N.S. Arunachalam, the representative of the Govennment of Madras said that the Madras Government had introduced intensive procurement of paddy and millets in all districts and tnat in determining the surplus available with the growers the officers had to take into accoun the quantity of paddy of rice or millets required by such persons,

(a) for consumption by themselves and their household,

(b) for payment of rent or interest in kind or for the repayment of loans in kind.

(c) for payment to their tenants by way of advance for agricultural expenses, where it was usual to make such advances.

(d) as seeds for cultivation and wages to labourers employed by them, and

(e) for payment to the village artisan or other person entitled to receive it as a customary remuneration for services

In regard to procurement of millets, however, the Madras Government had exempted holders of dry land not exceeding 10 acres. This exemption was made firstly because the Madras Government did not expect that holders of 10 acres of dry land should be in possession of any surplus of millets over and above their requirements for domestic consumption, seed, purposes, etc., and secondly during the controlled days when millet was included in the basic ration the Madras Government were not able to issue millets through their ration shops in the millet consuming areas for want of stocks. They were thus not able to fulfill their commitments in the past, and now this exemption was made as a sort of compensation for these people who suffered during the controlled days for want of millets. Mr. Arunachalam also said that due to adverse seasonal conditions dry crops had suffered very severally and holders of 10 acres of dry land would hardly be in a position to sell any surplus stocks. It would not, therefore, be desirable to subject these classes of people also into the system of rigorous monopoly procurement. He, however, said that this exemption was for the current year only.

Note:- Mr. Guru Dutt wanted to know the scale of allowances made to agriculturists for domestic consumption in the different untis and whether they were the same in all the units. The Chairman said that it was not unform all over the region. The present scales are:-

Madras and Cochin	16 ozs.
Mysore.	19.3 ozs.
Travancore.	12 ozs.
Coorg.	16 ozs.

Mr. T.K. Gopalan Nair for Travancore said that they had from the very beginning introduced the compulsory monopoly procurement system known as "Settlement Pattom" according to which all holders of land, whether they had any surplus or not, had to surrender a certain fixed quota of foodgrains to the Government compulsorily. But this year, they have exempted holders of 2 acres of land from any sort of procurement and have a graded levy for others - viz., a

(1) Holdings exceeding two acres and up to four acres - No procurement in respect of the first two acres and in respect of the balance areas, procurement would be effected at 20 paras per acre (4 maunds per acre).

(2) Holdings exceeding four acres and up to six acres - No procurement in respect of the first one acre and in respect of the balance area, procurement would be effected at 20 paras per acre, (4 maunds per acre.)

(3) Holdings exceeding six acres and up to eight acres- Procurement would be effected in respect of the entire area at 20 paras per acre (4 maunds per acre).

(@4) Holdings exceeding eight acres - Procurement would be effected in respect of the entire area at 25 paras per acre (5 maunds per acre). Beides this the total excess, if any, after making deductions for consumption etc., should also be surrendered to Government.

The Chairman pointed that this system was not very rational as it did not take into account the actual yield, nor the actual requirements of the growers for bonafide domestic purposes. Further nearly 80% of the producers came under the "Two acres and less" category and by exempting them Travancore would lose a substantial amount of their procurable surplus, which was not consistent with the advice communicated to them by the Government ~~Government~~ of India. He, therefore, desired the representative of Travancore to go into the details of production by each holder, his requirements and available surplus and devise a means by which all procurable surplus would go to the Government and not into the black-market.

The representative of Travancore said that there was such agitation both inside and outside the

Legislature that Government had to be very tactful in the matter.

The Chairman pointed out that in Madras they had appointed special staff to assess probable yield, requirements, and the surplus, etc., with producers and enquired whether the Travancore Government, had appointed any similar staff.

Mr. T. K. Gopalan Nair answered in the negative. He, however, said that the Travancore Government would take all possible steps to see that no procurable surplus went into the black-market.

Mr. C. T. Mudaliar, Chief Commissioner of Coorg said that according to the system of procurement in force in Coorg a landholder could retain with him (1) the quantity necessary for domestic consumption by himself and his family at such rates as were fixed by Government from time to time and (2) in case the land lord is the actual cultivator, the quantity necessary as seed for the land and the quantity necessary for the agricultural expenses of the land if any payable in kind. The balance of the produce should be sold by the land holder to the Coorg Government. No land holder would be allowed to sell any foodgrain to any person except those authorised by the Government. For the purposes of estimating the surpluses, the Coorg Government had a special staff for inspecting the harvest and assessing the procurable surplus. There was at present no Government monopoly procurement of paddy or rice in Coorg. The Government had appointed 2 agents for the procurement of paddy and rice required by them for internal consumption and for provincial reserve as well.

Mr. M. M. Paul, for Cochin said that in Cochin State every land holder should within 7 days from the date on which the crop raised on land is harvested submit a correct and true statement regarding the estimated yield, his requirements, surplus, etc., to the Cochin Government. The final authority for fixing the quantity of paddy that the he land holder would have to surrender to the Government is the Director of Food Supplies. Monopoly procurement of paddy was thus enforced in Cochin State and this system was working over since rationing was introduced in the State. The land holder whose land did not exceed one acre would be exempted from Monopoly procurement. Mr. Paul said that this system was working satisfactorily in Cochin State. After reviewing the systems of procurement prevailing in various parts of the Southern Region, the Conference recorded the following decisions:-

(a) As far as possible there should be compulsory Government monopoly procurement covering all classes of land owners, with uniform provisions for allowing grains for personal consumption, agricultural purposes, etc.

(b) The maximum allowance for consumptio

by agriculturists should not exceed 16 ozs. per adult per day.

The Chairman then read an extract from a note containing suggestions regarding procurement by Mr. S.N. Banerjee, Assistant Regional Controller of Procurement, Jalpaiguri. The Conference were unanimous that the suggestions were neither practicable nor commendable.

Item 2 of the Agenda: Finalisation of the Allotment of Food Grains for the Kharif year 1948-49.

Mr. P. G. Zachariah said that future allocations will be according to the calendar year and announced the following allocations to the Southern Region for 1949:-- (Please see statement at page 14)

The following allocations have been made for March 1949.

	Wheat.	Rice.	Maize.	Milo.	Total.
Madras.	10	15	6.5	..	31.5
Mysore.	3	8	2.57	2.5	16.2
Travancore.	25	25	--	--	25
Cochin.	..	10	--	--	10

Mr. Arunachalam stated that Maize was not much liked by people in Madras and wanted at least one ship load of milo to be allotted in March. Mr. Guru Dutt also pleaded likewise.

Mr. P. G. Zachariah said that he could not hold out any hopes of more milo immediately as shipments were very uncertain. They were expecting only 2 milo ships in India for March and it was difficult to make any further allotment to the Southern Region. He, however, promised to bear in mind the requirements of Madras and Mysore.

Item 3 of the Agenda. Supply of foodgrains on quarterly allocation basis.

Mr. T. K. Gopalan Nair wanted the allocations to be so regulated as to keep at least 6 weeks stock always in reserve to meet any emergency. It had been the practice of the Government of India, Mr. Gopalan Nair, said, previously to allot foodgrains on a quarterly basis. This system enabled them to work out-their distribution plans and desired that the Government of India should revert to this system.

Mr. Zachariah explained that due to uncertain prospects of shipments of grains, it was not possible to make quarterly allotments. He also said that while making monthly allocations, the Ministry of Food always took into consideration the quantity required for consumption for the month, the opening stock and the expected local procurement during the month so that the allotment be sufficient to leave a responsible carry-over for the next month.

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Item 4 of the Agenda: Allotment of Overseas rice for January and February 1949.

The Madras Government had been allotted 5,000 tons of rice each for the months of January and February. They had not received any imported rice for January and only 5,000 tons imported rice in February. They were also allotted 5,000 tons from Coorg. Madras Government wanted to know whether the 5,000 tons allotted for January would be supplied from imports or whether the separate allotment of 5,000 tons rice from Coorg was to count against this.

Mr. Zachaiah said that as no imported rice could be supplied against this allotment, the allotments from Orissa or Coorg should count against these.

Item No. 6 of the Agenda:- Monthly allotment of food grains for February and March, 1949 and their points of delivery.

(Please see under item 2)

Mr. Paul said that Cochin wanted some wheat urgently. Mr. Zachariah said that they were expecting a small cargo in March and they would try to give Cochin a portion of it if possible.

Mr. C. T. Mudaliar said that Coorg was badly in need of Wheat flour. Wheat flour was heitherto being supplied to Coorg by the Mysore Government and Mr. Guru Dutt promised to look into the matter and help Coorg as early as possible.

Item No. 7 of the Agenda:- Revision for ~~re~~ procedure for payment of cost of imported foodgrains;

Item No. 8 of the Agenda:- Precedure for remitting the cost of imported foodgrains in advance.

Mr. Gopalan Nair stated that from August, 1947 onwards the Travancore Government were being asked by the Centre to remit the cost of imported foodgrains supplied to them well in advance and in consequence the Travancore Government were experiencing the following difficulties.

(1) Remittances are always demanded and made on the quantity of foodgrains allotted from each vessel. The actual quantity delivered is often less than the quantity allotted. Some amount is therefore found due to the State.

(2) The debit notes from the Deputy Accountant-General (Food & Relief) New Delhi are not received in the chronological order of supply and there is considerable delay in the receipt of these debit notes also. Consequently the refund or adjustment of the excess amount due to the State is being delayed and funds to a large extent are lying locked up.

He, therefore, suggested that the Government of India might discontinue this pro-payment system and agree to recover the cost of foodgrains only after the delivery of the quota was completed and the consignees receipt was given so that the cost could be worked out on the actual quantity received by the State and so that the locking up of large sums of State money could be avoided.

The Chairman said that the Ministry of Food had given careful consideration to the points raised by the Travancore Government and had decided to continue the existing system of pre-payment. In order, however, to minimise the possibility of amounts remitted getting locked up, it had been decided by the Regional Food Commissioner that while placing demands the following time table would be followed:-

Expected date of arrival of ships	Last date by which remittance advise should be recieved.
1. When a specific date is known.	-- 4 days prior to the date of expected arrival.
2. Early in the month.	-- By the 2nd of the month.
3. Middle of the month.	-- By the 10th of the month.
4. End of the month.	-- By the 21st of the month.

(For this purpose "1st week" will be considered as "early in the month" "last week" as "end of the month" and "2nd/3rd week" as "middle of the month" Intimation of remittance should reach according to the dates specified for each shipment. If, however, for any reason, it was not possible to remit the amount on the due date the State should intimate to the Regional Food Commissioner the exact date on which the remittance would be made when the Regional Food Commissioner would consider the release of quotas in anticipation of remittance. The suggestion of the Travancore Government that they should be allowed to pay within a week of the issue of the Consignee's receipt was incompatible with the policy of pre-payment and could not therefore be accepted.

The Chairman also stated that if under this system the Travancore Government had remitted the cost for a quantity more than what they had actually received such excess payments would be adjusted against any future allotments to be made.

Item No. 9 of the agenda: Revised arrangements for clearing of foodgrains at Madras and Cochin ports from 1.2.49 introduced by the Government of India;

In view of the revised arrangements made by the Government of India for the clearance of imported foodgrains, the Madras Government wanted clearance of ~~imported foodgrains~~, the Madras elucidation on the following points:

(a) Weighment of foodgrains:- It has been stated that the Government of India officers at the ports will clear the cargo and deliver it to the recipient administrations at the delivery points. It is therefore presumed that the Government of India will make necessary arrangements to weigh the foodgrains before delivery. This is an important matter as there are no facilities for weighing at the actual point of delivery, viz., ships side, quay or Transit sheds. The facilities exist only in the railway weighbridge which is some distance away from these points.

(b) Congsignee's receipts: It has been stated that the officers of the Government of India will deliver the foodgrains to the recipient at the delivery points and obtain a receipt for the quantity delivered. As there are no facilities for weighing at the delivery points, the question arises as to the quantity for which a receipt is to be issued and when it should be issued.

(c) Retaring the wagons:- It is reported that the rotaring of empty wagons was hetherto done by the Madras Port Trust at the instance of the Government of India who bore these charges. It is presumed that the Government of India will bear these charges even after 1.2.1949

(d) Issue of clear receipts: It is desirable that clear Railway receipts showing clearly, the number of bags and weight loaded in the wagons are issued by the railways in order to prevent losses to the recipient Governments due to shortage in transit. It is reported that the Port Trust authorities refuse to issue such receipts unless some stringent conditions laid down by them are satisfied.

Regarding weighment procedure and consignee' receipts the Chairman said that necessary arrangements for weighment before delivery would be made by the Government of India, Ministry of Food. In order to ensure correct accounting of the number of bags and weignt of grain delivered to the Forwarding Agents of the recipients at the Ports, detailed instructions had been issued to the Clearing staff.

It had been agreed that the consignee's receipts in respect of deliveries to the Madras Government would be issued by their Forwarding Agents. The form of consignee's receipts would be the same as inexistance upt 31.1.49, except that it would be signed by the recipeint's forwarding agents on behalf of that Administration.

Regarding weighment in respect of despatches by lorries, empty lorries would be first weighed in the presence of a Dock Inspector and again after being loaded with foodgrains. The particulars of weights etc. would be entered by the Dock Inspector in a prescribed form in which the recipients' representative would be required to sign. Two copies of the completed form would also be given to the representative of the receipeint. The totals of weights of foodgrains in each lorry would be struck up.

The Chairman stated that similar procedure would also be adopted in the case of despatches by rail.

The quantity to be signed for in the final consignee's receipt would be the total of the weights of foodgrains ex. each lorry rail wagon, in respect of each ship. Consignee's receipts should be made out and handed over immediately on compeltion of deliveries from each shipment.

(At Cochin Port a similar method of maintaing tally of bags loaded into wagons lorries would be followed. As however there is no provision there for cent per cent weighment, an account of bags weighed will be maintained in a "Record of weighment" The average weight of bags and the total weight of bags consigned will be worked out in the same form.)

Regarding retaring of wagons necessary arrangements would be made by the Government of India staff for the taring and retaing of wagons at Madras and bills from the Port Trust at Madras would be received and paid for by the Government of India.

As regards issue of clear receipts, the Chairman stated that the Government of India were not concerned with this matter, which was one for settlement between the Madras Government and their forwarding agents.

Mr. Arunachalam stated that the Railways were insisting on 22 stitches being put on each of the bags of foodgrain if they were to be despatched at railway risk and wanted the Regional Food Commissioner to use his good offices to see that the Railways did not insist on this condition. The Chairman stated that the Government of Madras might address the railways direct on this matter and get an exemption from Mr. Arunachalam thought that it would be better if the Regional Food Commissioner as a representative of a department of the Government of India approached the Railways who were representing another department in the same Government. Two Chairman wanted the Government of Madras to send an official communication to the Regional Food Commissioner on this subject so that he may take it up with the Railways.

Item 10 of the Agenda: Allotment and movement of surplus rice in Coorg during the Kharif year 1948-49.

and

Item 11 of the Agenda. Allotment of rice from Coorg.

Coorg has offered 11,800 tons of rice as surplus for the Kharif year 1948-49 which has been distributed between Madras and Mysore. Some difficulty was experienced in moving this rice to Mysore and the Chairman requested Coorg's representative to see that the quotas moved expeditiously before the monsoon begins.

Mr. C. T. Mudaliar said that he would do t his best to see that the despatches were expedited.

The paddy crop in Coorg this year was reported to be usually good and the Chairman observed that Coorg should therefore be able to offer a larger surplus this year.

Mr. C.T. Mudaliar gave the following figures.

Year.	Acreage.
1943-44	88128.
1944-45	86590

Year.	Acreage.
1945-46	88638
1946-47	86838
1947-48	86974
1948-49	88130

Mr. Mudaliar stated that it should be ~~seen~~ Seen from the above that the area under paddy cultivation in 1948-49 was more or less the same as was in 1943-44.

Mr. Mudaliar could not say off hand whether Coorg could increase the exportable surplus to more than 11,800 tons. The work of assessing the production and requirements was expected to be completed by the end of February, 1949 when the exportable surplus could be estimated better. He gave the assurance that he would do his best to export something more than the declare quota.

In this connection he said that Coorg was very much in need of fertilisers due to the lack of which the paddy production had suffered considerably, and wanted the assistance of the Chairman to supply Coorg with more fertisliers. Coorg was hitherto getting fertilisers from Mysore but that supply was found to be insufficient. They wanted 5,000 tons of groundnut oil cake and 500 tons of bonemeal.

The Chairman said that it might be possible for the Government of India to arrange for the supply of some oil cake as also some chemical manures and wanted Mr. Mudaliar to send an official communication on the subject. In the meantime, he urged that Coorg should concentrate its attention on maximum internal procurement.

Mr. Arunachalam pointed out that whereas for 1946-47 when the estimate of production was 41,000 tons under an acreage of 86,813, the Coorg declared a surplus of 16,530, this year when the acreage was 88,130 Coorg should definitely be able to declare a larger surplus than 11,800 tons.

Mr. Mudaliar repeated his assurance that the maximum possible surplus would be made available for export.

Item 12 of the Agenda: Introduction of rationing in Coorg.

Mr. C. T. Mudaliar said that in consonance with the policy of control over distribution of foodgrain of the Government of India, the Coorg Administration proposed to introduce the non-statutory system of rationing in Coorg with effect from 1-4-49. Under this system the requirements of the family for one year calculated at 12 oz per adult per day for non-growers and 16 oz per audlt per day for growers would be allowed to be kept by any person and or family.

Item No. 13 of the Agenda: Payment of subsidy for imported foodgrains.

A N D.

Item No. 14 of the Agenda. Payment of bonus on food grains locally procured.

The Government of India had intimated

in their letter No. PY-619/34 dated 25-9-48 that in respect of imported foodgrains subsidy would be shared between the States and the Centre in equal proportion.

Mr. Gopalan Nair stated that the Travancore Government were subsidising the sale of rice alone. The subsidy was to be calculated after finding out the difference between the cost of foodgrains on arrival at the point of consumptiom and the issue rate fixed by the Government. It was some what difficult to calculate this and it would take some time before this calculation was made. Travancore wanted the Government of India to advance the subsidy by effecting a curtailment in the cost of imported rice supplied to Travancore. At present the Travancore Government were subsidising imported foodgrains to the exent of over Rs. 5/- per maund. If the Government of India were to bear half of the above, i.e. Rs. 2-8-0, he suggested, that the cost of imported rice supplied to Travancore might be reduced by Rs.2.9.0 per maund i.e. Rs. 23/- minus Rs. 2-9-0 - Rs. 20-7-0

Mr. Zachariah said that for auditing and accounting purposes the finance Department would not accept it. The Finance Department had already circularised a proforma calling for detailed information regarding the prices of foodgrains at various stages handled by the Governments. Only on receipt of the information called for in that proforma, would the Finance Department be able to grant the subsidy promised by the Centre. He wanted the Governments to expedite the supply of the information.

Item No. 15 of the Agenda: Inferior quality of some variety of imported rice.

AND

Item No. 16 of the Agenda: Supply of Broken rice.

All the members complained about the poor quality of rice supplied to them from Siam. The rice was reported to be very sticky, glutinous and not wholesome. They wanted the Government of India to stop importing this quality of rice to avoid complaints.

Mr. Zachariah explained that under an agreement entered into by the Government of India with Siam, the Government of India were obliged to take 15% of the available surplus in Siam in the form of glutinous rice. There was no other go but to accept 15% of our imports from Siam in the form of glutinous rice and there was no use complaining against it. Further, the rice position in India was not such as to justify their refusing to accept this variety of rice.

The Cochin Government had suggested that for the rice of poor quality a price lower than that fixed for good quality might be fixed; but his request could not be agreed to, since the Government of India were paying the same price for all kinds of rice imported from Siam.

Mr. Zachria however added that the Government of India were considering the question of giving a rebate for imported broken rice supplied to Governments.

Item No. 17 of the Agenda. Export of controlled foodgrains.

(Suggested by Cochin Government) and Item 18. Re-imposition of controls over graim - Ban on both imports and exports.

Mr. Paul, and Mr. Gopalan Nair, both complained that merchants who had been issued permits for export of gram by the Government of Madras were importing gram into the States of Cochin and Travancore where gram was a controlled commodity and where its price and distribution were regulated by the States, who were getting quotas of gram from outside on Government account. If, therefore, gram was allowed to move into the States through private channels it would seriously upset the control over gram in the States. They therefore suggested that exporting areas should consult the States before they issued permits for exports to Cochin and Travancore States.

Mr. Arunachalam said that the Madras Government have not imposed control over the movement of gram in the Madras Province. Production of gram in the Province was very little and Madras had to get gram from outside for its requirements. This they got either on Government account against quotas allotted by the Ministry of Food or through normal trade channels. For the quantity of gram procured by the Madras Government, the Government have fixed ceiling prices, but not for the quantity procured through the Trade Channels.

Mr. Guru Dutt said that the position in Mysore was identical with that of Madras and that there was no control over the movement of gram within Mysore. Mysore had also fixed a celing price for vram imported on Government account.

Mr. Arunachalam agreed to consult the Travancore and Cochin States in future before permits were issued to merchants for exporting gram into these states.

Item No. 19 of the Agenda. Delay in procurement of quota.- allotted from internal sources.

Mr. Zachriah said that the following allocations of gram have been made to Madras for the period ending April 1949:-

From Patiala and Punjab.	20,000 tons.
From Vindhyapredesh.	4,536 tons.
From Bengal.	1,620 tons.

Against the quota of 20,000 tons of gram from Patiala, only 700 tons had so far been moved by the Madras Government and arrangements had been made by Madras to move a further quantity of 5000 tons. The Government of India were very anxious that the allotted quantity was lifted expeditiously by the recipient administrations.

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Mr. Pare, Assitant Commissioner (Movements) said that the Madras Government had stationed at the supplying stations their Assistant Marketting Officers tu supervise arrangements for procurement and movement of gram. He presumed that the Assistant Marketting Officers had made necessary arrangements for expeditious movement of stocks offered.

Item No. 20 of the Agenda. Replacement of excess supplies made to Cochin during 1945-46.

The Government of Cochin were supplied with 500 tons of rice by Madras on a replacement basis during the Kharif year 1945-46. Cochin has not yet returned this loan to Madras.

Mr. Arunachalam wanted that the Cochin Government should replace this loan to Madras in all fairness and as a matter of policy. Travancore Government had also taken similarly a loan which they had returned.

After discussion it was agreed that Cochin would repay this in five instalments of 100 tons each, as quickly as possible.

Item No. 21 of the Agenda. Supply of Maize products to Travancore from Malabar.

The Commissioner of Civil Supplies, Madras has presented a bill for the supply of maize and maize flour supplies to the Travancore State from Madras Province during 1946-47. According to this, 24182 bags (53539 maunds) which included 754 bags weighing 1468 maund of maize flour were sent from Malabar to Travancore in December 1946 against the allotment of 4000 tons from Madras Province. The Travancore Government stated that they had not received the maize flour referred to by the Madras Government, but the Collector of Malabar who arranged this supply said that the maize products were taken from the Government godowns at Palghat and despatched by Messr. Volkart Brothers, Calicut for shipment to Travancore. The Chairman suggested that the Madras Government might call for the records with the Collector showing that the maize flour was actually sent to Travancore. Mr. Arunachalam said that he could obtain the parituclars from the Collector of Malabar.

Item No. 22 of the Agenda. Allotment of long wheat to Travancore.

Representatives of all the administrations said that they would very much appreciate if some quantity of long wheat was supplied to them as it was required for dibetic patients.

Mr. Zachariah suggested that the Government might send through the Regional Food Commissioner, their estimates of annual requirements of long wheat and that on receipt of these estimates, the Government of India would explore the possibility of making an allotment to each of the Administrations, according to availability.

Item No.23 of the Agenda. Allotment of foodgrains from Central Reserve. The Chairman stated that it had been the experience in this Region that the recipient Governments were not prompt in lifting their quotas

allotted to them from the Central Reserves. Delay in lifting led to loss of foodgrains by (i) deterioration due to long storage and (ii) loss of grain due to dryage. The Chairman said that the Government of India could not be responsible for these losses and stated that if any recipient Government did not lift their allotment with a reasonable time the quotas would be cancelled and re-alloted to others.

The representatives of the Governments said that delay in lifting their quotas occurred not because the nonavailability of wagons.

The Chairman stated that if the delay was really due to lack of wagons, they should contact the railway authorities and see that the grains were moved more expeditiously than hithertofore, and this factor would be borne in mind in assessing the delay in lifting the quotas.

Item No. 24 of the Agenda - Ban of polishing of rice.

After some discussion it was decided that rcie should be issued for consumption for public after single polishing it and not in a merely de-husked condition. By issuing de-husked rice the consumer was put to hardship because he would have to polish it again to render the rice consumable and in doing so he would naturally lose a portion of the rice issued to him. Therefore the conference of unanimous opinion that rice should be given a single polish and not merely dehusked before issue for consumption.

SUPPLEMENTARY AGENDA.

Item 1 of the Agenda. Import of bananas from Travancore State into enclave villages of Anjengo and Tangenesseri.

Mr. Arunachalam said that it was quite unreasonable on the part of Travancore Government to refuse to supply the enclave villages of Anjengo and Tangenesseri with banana which formed an important part of their diet. He wanted the Chairman to persuade the Travancore Government to lift the ban on the import of bananas from Travancore Government to lift the ban on the import of bananas from Travancore to Anjengo and Tangenesseri.

The representatives of the Travancore Government promised to look into the matter and take necessary urgent action.

Item No. 2 of the Supplementary Agenda.
Imposition of ban on the Movement of potatoes by the Mysore Government.

Mr. Guru Dutt said that Mysore had formerly banned the export of potatoes to any place outside Mysore the Ban has been extended up to 1.3.1949. The Mysore Government had a scheme under consideration according to which half the yield of potatoes would be allowed to be exported on a permit system. Under this scheme producers of potatoes, either big or small, would be required to submit to the Government an estimate of their annual production. Half the estimated yield would be allowed to be exported and theproducer would be issued coupons for such quantity. The wholesale exporter will have to buy from the producers the available potatoes as per the cou-

Coupons and only on production of the coupons would the wholesale exporter be allowed to export. No potatoes could be exported from the State without production of these coupons.

Mr. Arunachalam said that Madras would be glad to have some quota of potatoe from Mysore. But Mr. Guru Dutt said that he would not be mable to allot any specific quota for Madras, and that Madras would have to enter into negotiations with the stockists in Mysore and get as much as was available.

Item No. 3 of the supplementary agenda. Specifications regarding bagging of imported foodgrains.

Mr. Arunachalam said that some of the bagged rice received by the Madras Government from imports (supplied by the Government of India clearing agents) ~~were not accepted by the railways to be of India clearing agents~~) were not accepted by the railways to be despatched a railway risk, on account of poor standard of stitching.

The Chairman explained that every possible precaution was taken to ensure that the mouths of bags were properly stitiched. Ordinarily each bag was given a minimum of 12 tight stitches in double twine with the mouths of the bag folded twice. There have been no complaints so far from any administrations regarding bagging. If the railway did not accept the bags as such, the Chairman said that it was up to the party who wanted to send the consignment at railway risk.

Item No. 4 of the supplementary Agenda. The latest ruling of the Government of India that at open ports delivery of cargoes will be at ship's side.

Mr. Pare said that the latest ruling of the Government of India that in respect of foodgrains discharged in minor ports, the recipient governments should make their own arrangements to take delivery of the grains allotted to them fron steamerx at ships' side worked to great disadvantage in that

(i) the Madras Government would have to bear all the incidental expenses, lighterage, etc.,

(ii) the Madras Government would ~~have to bear all the incidental expenses, lighterage~~ be held responsible for any losses overboard.

Mr. Pare represented that it would not be possible for the Madras Government to agree to shoulder these responsibilities and to incur the extra expenditure. As such, he said that, if the Government of India insisted on ship-side delivery on this for all imports ~~of~~ made through minor ports, the Madras Government would be forced to accept their grains only through major ports. He further pointed out that originally the Madras Government wanted the Government of India to send some shipments to the minor ports because diversion to minor ports would relieve congestion in major ports to some the extent, would save transport by rail would also provide work for the labour in minor ports. He wanted the Chairman to move the Centre to agree to delivery of imported grains at minor ports ex ~~Centre in agree~~ ~~ex delivery~~ wharf or Port Commissioners shed as in the case of major ports. The Chairman asked Mr. Pare to send an official Communication on this subject and he

agreed to do so.

(sd) x x
Regional Food Commissioner-Incharge

/True copy/

Allocations of foodgrains to the Southern Region for 1949.

. . . .

(In Thousands tons.)

	Wheat.	Rice.	Course Grain.	Total.
Madras.	120	80	200	400
Mysore.	25	24	51	100
Travancore.	30	240	-	270
Cochin.	10	90	-	100

/True copy/

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.
MINISTRY OF FOOD.

Telegram: Recom.
Telephon:84058.

Office of the Regional Food Commissioner, 41, Whites Road, Royapettah P.O., Madras. 14.

From

The Regional Food Commissioner,
Southern Regional, Madras.

To

J. Pare Esq., I.C.S.,
Assistant Commissioner of Civil Supplies,
Madras.

The Secretary to the Government of Madras,
Food Department, Madras.

No. 388/49/B1-14 dated 7.4.49

Sir,

CONFERENCE - 8th Regional Food Conference - Proceedings - Amendment - My letter No. 388/49/B1-12 dated 9.3.49

. . .

The words "or outside" between the words 'within' and 'Mysore' in paragraph 3, under (Items 17 and 18 of the Agenda) of the proceedings of the 8th Regional Food Conference, sent to you with my letter cited above, may please be deleted.

Yours faithfully,

Dr. Rajagopal.
for Regional Food Commissioner.

Copy to the Commissioner of Civil Supplies, Madras.

/True copy/

Food (C) Department.

Submitted for perusal. The amendment has been carried out. No action seems called for. May be lodged and added to papers at (J).

(sd) x x21.4.49.

/True copy/

From the Board of Revenue (CS) E. 2882/49-7-(C.S.), dated 7.3.49.

. . . .

Please see the Board's reference at p. 55 c.f. and its enclosures thereto. The Board has submitted a copy of the proceedings of the 8th Regional Food Conference, held on 16.2.49. This section is concerned with the points under items 6,9,10,16,20,27 and 28. Separate action with regard to these have been taken already and as much as no action seems necessary on this file. The papers may be recorded as a G.O. after giving copies of the proceedings to the concerned section. The R.F.C.' reply to the letter at p. 53 of may not perhaps be awaited.

X This has been received since and submitted separately The papers may be Recorded.

(sd) x x/16.3.49.

(item 26 received in (g) which action is been taken separately.)

. . .

(262)

G.O. Ms. 269 dated 16.3.49.

Conference - 8th Regional Food Conference Proceedings- and papers - relating to . Recorded.

(Sd) x x x
Secretary to Government.

/True copy/

Superintendent,
10.8.53.
Madras Record Office.

mr.9.7.53.